



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LICKING MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR ILLEGAL FIREARM

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Licking, Mo., man has been sentenced in federal court for illegally possessing a firearm.

Freddie Joe Gann, 28, of Licking, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr on Friday to 15 years in federal prison without parole. Due to his criminal background, Graves explained, **Gann** was sentenced as a career criminal. **Gann** was on parole for burglary and stealing convictions at the time of this offense.

On Oct. 6, 2005, **Gann** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. **Gann** admitted that he was in possession of a Mossberg .22-caliber rifle and ammunition on May 2, 2005, in Texas County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Gann** has 1998 criminal felony convictions for seven counts of burglary and six counts of stealing in Monroe County, Mo., and three counts of burglary and one count of stealing in Shelby County, Mo.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robyn L. McKee. It was investigated by the Texas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html